



NEWS RELEASE

Today's Date: March 13, 2013
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Caltrans Announces Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony for Devil's Slide Tunnels

MONTARA – Caltrans announces it will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony March 25 for the Devil's Slide Tunnels on Highway 1, the state's first new highway tunnels to open in nearly 50 years, in San Mateo County.

"Everyone at Caltrans is eagerly looking forward to the opening of the new tunnels," said Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty. "The days of washed out highways, prolonged closures and stranded communities will finally be behind us."

The \$439 million project features two new bores, one northbound and one southbound, on Highway 1 between Pacifica and Half Moon Bay. The new tunnels will bypass a section of Highway 1 that has been plagued by numerous rock slides, mud slides, and slipouts over the past several decades. Many of these slides and slipouts forced Caltrans to close the road for extended periods of time. The long-term closures had a devastating effect on the local economies.

Caltrans District 4 Director Bijan Sartipi said, "We take great pride in this project, not only for the relief it will bring to the local communities, but also for the great care we took in preserving the surrounding environment. Both the tunnels and the new bridges were designed to have the lowest impact possible."

Once the ceremony, which begins at 11 a.m., is finished, construction crews will finish the final reconfiguration of the roads leading to and from the new tunnels. The tunnels will open to traffic later that evening.

For more information about the tunnel, please visit our web page at:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/dslide/>

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